

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 DPW-01 IO-12 CCO-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

RSR-01 /108 W

----- 016611

O R 091120 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9870

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, VS

SUBJECT: DOWNING OF JMC HELICOPTER

1. VNAF HELICOPTER WAS FIRED AT, HIT, AND FORCED DOWN APRIL 9 AT 10:30 HOURS HOTEL SIX MILES NORTH OF VI THANH, CAPITAL OF CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE. DETAILS STILL NOT CLEAR, BUT APPEARS THAT HELICOPTER, FLYING AT 1500 FEET, WAS ESCORTING ICCS HELICOPTER ON WAY TO INVESTIGATION OF A SHELLING INCIDENT NEAR VI THANH, CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE. MACHINE GUN FIRE HIT FUEL CELL AND HELICOPTER CRASH LANDED NEAR ARVN OUTPOST. ACCORDING TO CONGEN CAN THO, AIRCRAFT SUSTAINED 100 PERCENT DAMAGE AND ONE ARVN SERGEANT LIGHTLY WOUNDED. NO OTHER CASUALTIES. ICCS HELICOPTER HAS RETURNED TO BASE. REGION VII ICCS HAS FROZEN ALL INVESTIGATORY ACTIVITIES PENDING CONSULATION WITH SAIGON.

2. GVN PRESS SPOKESMAN, LTC HIEN, GAVE FOREIGN PRESS DIFFERENT ACCOUNT OF INCIDENT AT PRESS BRIEFING AFTERNOON APRIL 9. ACCORDING TO HIEN, HELICOPTER WAS CARRYING PERSONNEL OF BOTH PARTIES TO TPJMC. HE INDICATED THAT CHOPPER WAS HIT BUT SUSTAINED ONLY

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LIGHT DAMAGE AND WAS NOT FORCED TO LAND.

3. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THERE WERE PRG PERSONNEL ON HELICOPTER, AS THEY ARE ALL AT DAVIS STATION, SAIGON. PRESS ACCOUNTS STATE HELICOPTER HAD JMC MARKINGS. THIS MAY BE TRUE, BUT MARKINGS CLEARLY PERTAIN TO FORMER FPJMC WHICH NO LONGER IN EXISTENCE. CHOPPER CARRIED GVN PERSONNEL FORMERLY ATTACHED TO FPJMC WHO MAY BE ULTIMATELY ATTACHED TO TPJMC. WHILE FACTS ARE CONFUSED, ESSENCE OF INCIDENT IS THAT VNAF CHOPPER ESCORTING ICCS HELICOPTER WAS FIRED ON, RESULTING IN HALT TO ICCS INVESTIGATION OF REPORTED CEASEFIRE VIOLATION.
WHITEHOUSE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SAIGON05938
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730437/aaaahyas.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <07-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971212
Subject: DOWNING OF JMC HELICOPTER
TAGS: MARR, VS
To: BUDAPEST
EA
JAKARTA
OTTAWA
SECSTATE WASHDC
WARSAW
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005